

I claim:

1. An audio-visual interactive drum apparatus comprising:
a money validation unit to accept and validate a user's money;
a plurality of electronic drum pads;
a lighting system;
an audio speaker system;
a video display system; and
a control system for receiving an input from the money validation unit; for receiving inputs from the electronic drum pads; and for controllably driving the lighting system, the audio speaker system and the video display system.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a musical source to provide musical accompaniment for the user of said drum apparatus.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the control apparatus is suitably programmed to analyze inputs received from the electronic drum pads during a user's playing of the electronic drum pad to score the user's playing, and to drive the audio speaker system and the video display system to provide feedback to the user.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of user cuing light indicia of which at least one of said plurality of light indicia is associated with each one of said plurality of electronic drum pads.

5. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the control apparatus

is connected to said plurality of light indicia and is suitably programmed to drive said plurality of light indicia to guide the user to play the plurality of electronic drum pads in the correct sequence and with the correct rhythm.

6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the video display system includes a touch-screen CRT display which is utilized by the user to provide mode selection data to the control system.

7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the control system is suitably programmed to drive the video display system to display a visual representation of the plurality of electronic drum pads and mode selection prompts to the user and the user enters mode selection data by striking an appropriate one of the plurality of electronic drum pads corresponding to an appropriate mode selection prompt.

8. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising at least two user cuing light indicia, at least a first of said at least two for a left hand cue and at least a second of said at least two for a right hand cue, associated with at least one of said plurality of electronic drum pads.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 comprising at least a third cuing light indicia for a raise hi-hat cue.

10. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a sound resistant cabinet.

11. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said lighting system further comprises one or more lighting components selected from the group comprising: an overhead white light, a black light, a

strobe light and colored stage lights.

12. The apparatus of claim 1 in which the lighting system is controlled in response to a user's activities.

13. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising two drumsticks flexibly cabled to a cabinet.

14. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the plurality of drum pads include a snare, a hi-hat, crash and ride cymbals, a plurality of toms and a bass foot pedal.

15. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the video display system is controllably driven to display the plurality of electronic drum pads.

16. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the control system is programmed to controllably drive the audio speaker system and the video display system to provide user feedback.

17. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the control system is programmed to controllably drive the audio speaker system and the video display system in a rest mode to demonstrate the capability of the apparatus and to attract user interest.

18. An audio-visual interactive drum play method comprising the steps of:

inserting a predetermined amount of money into a money validation unit;

activating a plurality of electronic drum pads, a lighting system, an audio speaker system and a video display system upon recognition of the insertion of the predetermined amount of money;

controllably driving the lighting system, the audio speaker system, and the video display system;

utilizing a control system to cue a user; and

monitoring the plurality of electronic drum pads as they are played by a user in response to said cue.

19. The method of claim 18 further comprising the step of: providing musical accompaniment for said playing.

20. The method of claim 18 further comprising the steps of: analyzing inputs received from the electronic drum pads during said playing;

scoring the playing; and

providing feedback concerning the playing.

21. The method of claim 18 further comprising the step of: lighting a plurality of light indicia associated with the electronic drum pads to guide said playing.

22. The method of claim 18 wherein said video display system includes a touch screen and the method further comprises the steps of:

displaying a menu of selectable modes of operation to a user; and

utilizing said touch screen to select a preferred mode of operation.

23. The method of claim 18 further comprising the steps of: displaying a visual representation of the plurality of electronic drum pads on the video display system; and entering user data by striking an appropriate one of the

plurality of electronic drum pads.

24. An audio-visual interactive music apparatus comprising:
a plurality of user input sensors;
an audio speaker system;
a video display system; and

a control system for receiving inputs from the user input sensors; and for controllably driving the audio speaker system and the video display system; said control system being programmed to drive the audio speaker system and the video display system to provide a user musical instruction and user feedback as a user is actuating the plurality of user input sensors.

25. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein at least one of said user input sensors is incorporated in an electronic drum pad.

26. The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising a musical source to provide musical accompaniment for the user of said apparatus.

27. The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the musical source is a multi-disk CD player controlled by the control system.

28. The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising a VCR controlled by the control system.

29. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the control apparatus is suitably programmed to analyze inputs received from the plurality of user input sensors during a user's playing of the music apparatus to score the user's playing, and to drive the audio speaker system and the video display system to provide

feedback to the user.

30. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein said feedback comprises crowd clapping and crowd cheering output by the audio speaker system.

31. The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising a plurality of user cuing light indicia of which at least one of said plurality of light indicia is associated with each one of said plurality of user input sensors.

32. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein at least two of said plurality of user cuing light indicia cue a user to strike a particular user input sensor with either the left or the right hand.

33. An audio-visual interactive arcade apparatus comprising:

a cabinet having an entrance and a suitably small footprint;
a plurality of electronic drum pads;
an audio speaker system;
a video display system; and
a control system for receiving inputs from the electronic drum pads and for controllably driving the audio speaker system and the video display system.

34. The apparatus of claim 33 wherein at least one of the plurality of electronic drum pads is mounted on a length of hollow plastic pipe one end of which is beveled at an angle at which it is desired to mount said at least one of the plurality of electronic drum pads.

